

Dated: May 20, 1997.

**Joseph A. Spetrini,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary, Enforcement Group III.*

[FR Doc. 97-13812 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Minority Business Development Agency

#### Notice: Solicitation of Business Development Center Applications

**AGENCY:** Minority Business Development Agency, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; solicitation of business development center applications for Atlanta, Chicago I, Chicago II, Austin, Manhattan/Bronx, Nassau/Suffolk, Queens, Orange County, Phoenix and Las Vegas.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Executive Order 11625 and 15 U.S.C. 1512, the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is soliciting competitive applications from organizations to operate the Minority Business Development Centers (MBDC) listed in this document.

The purpose of the MBDC Program is to provide business development assistance to persons who are members of groups determined by MBDA to be socially or economically disadvantaged, and to business concerns owned and controlled by such individuals. To this end, MBDA funds organizations to identify and coordinate public and private sector resources on behalf of minority individuals and firms; to offer a full range of client services to minority entrepreneurs; and to serve as a conduit of information and assistance regarding minority business.

In accordance with the Interim Final Policy published in the **Federal Register** on May 31, 1996, the cost-share requirement for the MBDCs listed in this notice has been increased to 40%. The Department of Commerce will fund up to 60% of the total cost of operating an MBDC on an annual basis. The MBDC operator is required to contribute at least 40% of the total project cost (the "cost-share requirement"). Cost-sharing contributions may be in the form of cash, client fees, third party in-kind contributions, non-cash applicant contributions or combinations thereof. In addition to the traditional sources of an MBDC's cost-share contribution, the 40% may be contributed by local, state and private sector organizations. It is anticipated that some organizations may apply jointly for an award to operate the center. For administrative purposes, one

organization must be designated as the recipient organization.

**ADDRESSES:** Completed application packages should be submitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency, MBDA Executive Secretariat, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 5073, Washington, D.C. 20230.

**DATES:** The closing date for applications for each MBDC is July 7, 1997.

**PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE:** A pre-application conference will be held for each MBDC. Contact the appropriate regional office for further information.

Proper identification is required for entrance into any federal building.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following are MBDCs for which applications are solicited: Atlanta; Chicago I, Chicago II, Austin, Manhattan/Bronx, Nassau/Suffolk, Queens, Orange County, Phoenix, and Las Vegas:

1. **MBDC Application:** Atlanta.

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Atlanta, Georgia.

*Award Number:* 04-10-97007-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and place, contact the Atlanta Regional Office at (404) 730-3300.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Robert Henderson, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$471,927. The total Federal amount is \$283,156 and is composed of \$276,250 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$6,906. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$188,771 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$471,927.

2. **MBDC Application:** Chicago I, South. *Metropolitan Area Served:* Chicago, Illinois.

*Award Number:* 05-10-97001-01

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and location, contact the Chicago Regional Office at (312) 353-0182.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* David Vega, Regional Director.

The boundaries for Chicago I, South are designated as follows:

- Northern Boundary: bounds on the north by the City of Chicago dividing line of Madison Street.

- Southern Boundary: bounds south by the City of Chicago dividing line of Madison Street Southwest to Harlem Avenue (Route 43); south to Interstate 55 (Stevenson Expressway) Southwest

to Route 80; including Grundy and Will Counties but excluding Kankakee, Livingston and LaSalle Counties.

- Eastern Boundary: bounds on the east by Lake Michigan and the Indiana State Line.

- Western Boundary: bounds on the west by (Route 39); excluding Boone County.

Cities within this geographic area include, but are not limited to: Oak Lawn, Cicero, Summit, Bridgeview, Evergreen Park, Blue Island, Calumet City, Mokena, Harvey, Chicago Heights and Joliet, Illinois.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$460,834. The total Federal amount is \$276,500 and is composed of \$269,756 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$6,744. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$184,334 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$460,834.

3. **MBDC Application:** Chicago II, North. *Metropolitan Area Served:* Chicago, Illinois.

*Award Number:* 05-10-97001-02.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and location, contact the Chicago Regional Office at (312) 353-0182.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* David Vega, Regional Director.

The boundaries for Chicago II, North are designated as follows:

- Northern Boundary: bounds on the north by the Wisconsin State Line.

- Southern Boundary: bounds on the south by the City of Chicago dividing line of Madison Street then Southwest on Harlem Avenue (Route 43); South to Route 55 (Stevenson Expressway); Southwest to Interstate 80; excluding LaSalle County.

- Western Boundary: bounds on the west by Interstate 39; excluding Boone County.

- Eastern Boundary: bounds on the east by Lake Michigan and the Indiana State Line.

Cities within this geographic area include, but are not limited to: Maywood, Brookfield, Oak Park, Bolingbrook, Bellwood, DesPlaines, Palatine, Skokie, Waukegan and Elgin, Illinois.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$460,834. The total Federal amount is \$276,500 and is composed of \$269,756 plus the Audit

Fee amount of \$6,744. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$184,334 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$460,834.

**4. MBDC Application: Austin.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Austin, Texas.

*Award Number:* 06-10-97008-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and place, contact the Dallas Regional Office at (214) 767-8001.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Bobby Jefferson, Acting Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$314,778. The total Federal amount is \$188,867 and is composed of \$184,260 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$4,607. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$125,911 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$314,778.

**5. MBDC Application: Manhattan/Bronx.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:*

Manhattan/Bronx, New York.

*Award Number:* 02-10-97006-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and place, contact the New York Regional Office at (212) 264-3262.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Heyward Davenport, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$444,167. The total Federal amount is \$266,500 and is composed of \$260,000 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$6,500. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$177,667 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$444,167.

**6. MBDC Application: Nassau/Suffolk.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Nassau/Suffolk, New York.

*Award Number:* 02-10-97007-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and place, contact the New York Regional Office at (212) 264-3262.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Heyward Davenport, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance

for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$314,778. The total Federal amount is \$188,867 and is composed of \$184,260 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$4,607. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$125,911 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$314,778.

**7. MBDC Application: Queens.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Queens, New York.

*Award Number:* 02-10-97008-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time and place, contact the New York Regional Office at (212) 264-3262.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Heyward Davenport, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 30, 1998, is estimated at \$416,667. The total Federal amount is \$250,000 and is composed of \$245,300 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$4,700. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$166,667 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$416,667.

**8. MBDC Application: Orange County.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Orange County, California.

*Award Number:* 09-10-97009-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time, and location, contact the San Francisco Regional Office at (415) 744-3001.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Melda Cabrera, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$333,333. The total Federal amount is \$200,000 and is composed of \$195,122 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$4,878. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$133,333 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$333,333.

**9. MBDC Application: Las Vegas.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Las Vegas, Nevada.

*Award Number:* 09-10-97011-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time, and location, contact the San Francisco Regional Office at (415) 744-3001.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Melda Cabrera, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$281,875. The total Federal amount is \$169,125 and is composed of \$165,000 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$4,125. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$112,750 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$281,875.

**10. MBDC Application: Phoenix.**

*Metropolitan Area Served:* Phoenix, Arizona.

*Award Number:* 09-10-97010-01.

*Pre-Application Conference:* For the exact date, time, and location, contact the San Francisco Regional Office at (415) 744-3001.

*For Further Information and an Application Package, Contact:* Melda Cabrera, Regional Director.

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from October 1, 1997 to October 31, 1998, is estimated at \$314,778. The total Federal amount is \$188,867 and is composed of \$184,260 plus the Audit Fee amount of \$4,607. The application must include a minimum cost share of 40%, \$125,911 in non-federal (cost-sharing) contributions for a total project cost of \$314,778 dolphins.

**Standard Paragraphs**

The following information and requirements are applicable to the listed MBDCs: Atlanta, Chicago I, Chicago II, Manhattan/Bronx, Nassau/Suffolk, Queens, Orange County, Phoenix, and Las Vegas.

The funding instrument for this project will be a cooperative agreement. If the recommended applicant is the current incumbent organization, the award will be for 12 months. For those applicants who are not incumbent organizations or who are incumbents that have experienced closure due to a break in service, a 30-day start-up period will be added to their first budget period, making it a 13-month award. Competition is open to individuals, non-profit and for-profit organizations, state and local governments, American Indian tribes and educational institutions.

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria: the knowledge, background and/or capabilities of the firm and its staff in addressing the needs of the business community in general and, specifically, the special needs of minority businesses, individuals and organizations (45 points), the resources available to the firm in providing

business development services (10 points); the firm's approach (techniques and methodologies) to performing the work requirements included in the application (25 points); and the firm's estimated cost for providing such assistance (20 points). In accordance with Interim Final Policy published in the **Federal Register** on May 31, 1996, the scoring system will be revised to add ten (10) bonus points to the application of community-based organizations. Each qualifying application will receive the full ten points. Community-based applicant organizations are those organizations whose headquarters and/or principal place of business within the last five years have been located within the geographic service area designated in the solicitation for the award. Where an applicant organization has been in existence for fewer than five years or has been present in the geographic service area for fewer than five years, the individual years of experience of the applicant organization's principals may be applied toward the requirement of five years of organization experience. The individual years of experience must have been acquired in the geographic service area which is the subject of the solicitation. An application must receive at least 70% of the points assigned to each evaluation criteria category to be considered programatically acceptable and responsive. Those applications determined to be acceptable and responsive will then be evaluated by the Director of MBDA. Final award selections shall be based on the number of points received, the demonstrated responsibility of the applicant, and the determination of those most likely to further the purpose of the MBDA program. Negative audit findings and recommendations and unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for award. The applicant with the highest point score will not necessarily receive the award. Periodic reviews culminating in year-to-date evaluations will be conducted to determine if funding for the project should continue. Continued funding will be at the total discretion of MBDA based on such factors as the MBDC's performance, the availability of funds and Agency priorities.

The MBDC shall be required to contribute at least 40% of the total project cost through non-federal contributions. To assist in this effort, the MBDC may charge client fees for services rendered. Fees may range from

\$10 to \$60 per hour based on the gross receipts of the client's business.

Anticipated processing time of this award is 120 days. Executive order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," is not applicable to this program. Federal funds for this project include audit funds for non-CPA recipients. In event that a CPA firm wins the competition, the funds allocated for audits are not applicable. Questions concerning the preceding information can be answered by the contact person indicated above, and copies of application kits and applicable regulations can be obtained at the above address. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information, subject to the requirements of the GRA, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. The collection of information requirements for this project have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assigned OMB control number 0640-0006.

Awards under this program shall be subject to all Federal laws, and Federal and Departmental regulations, policies, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

**Pre-Award Costs**—Applicants are hereby notified that if they incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal assurance that an applicant may have received, there is no obligation on the part of the Department of Commerce to cover pre-award costs.

**Outstanding Account Receivable**—No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either the delinquent account is paid in full, repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or other arrangements satisfactory to the Department of Commerce are made.

**Name Check Policy**—All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

**Award Termination**—The Departmental Grants Officer may terminate any grant/cooperative agreement in whole or in part at any

time before the date of completion whenever it is determined that the award recipient has failed to comply with the conditions of the grant/cooperative agreement. Examples of some of the conditions which can cause termination are failure to meet cost-sharing requirements; unsatisfactory performance of the MBDC work requirements; and reporting inaccurate or inflated claims of client assistance. Such inaccurate or inflated claims may be deemed illegal and punishable by law.

**False Statements**—A false statement on an application for Federal financial assistance is grounds for denial or termination of funds, and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

**Primary Applicant Certifications**—All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511,

"Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying."

**Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension**—Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, § 26.105) are subject to 15 CFR Part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies.

**Drug Free Workplace**—Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, § 26.605) are subject to 15 CFR Part 26, Subpart F, "Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies.

**Anti-Lobbying**—Persons (as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, § 28.105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000, and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000 or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater.

**Anti-Lobbying Disclosures**—Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR Part 28, Appendix B.

**Lower Tier Certifications**—Recipients shall require applications/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if

applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" and disclosure form, SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be transmitted to DOC. SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

*Buy American-made Equipment or Products*—Applicants are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the extent feasible, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program.

11.800 Minority Business Development Center

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)

Dated: May 19, 1997.

**Frances B. Douglas,**

*Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer,  
Minority Business Development Agency.*

[FR Doc. 97-13748 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-21-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042497C]

#### Marine Mammals; Permit No. 1019 (P619)

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Scientific research permit amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific research permit no. 1019 submitted by Dr. Catherine Schaeff, Department of Biology, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20016, has been granted to import up to 2860 tissue and biopsy skin samples taken from southern right whales (*Eubalaena australis*) from South America, South Africa, and Australia.

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2289 (508/281-9250);

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5301).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On February 27, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 8929) that an amendment to permit no. 1019 issued October 16, 1996 (61 FR 55134), had been requested by the above-named individual. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the provisions of § 222.25 of the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

Issuance of this amendment, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit: (1) Was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: May 15, 1997.

**Ann D. Terbush**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-13816 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Defense Partnership Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting cancellation.

**SUMMARY:** On May 1, 1997, 62 FR 2376, the Department of Defense published a notice to announce a meeting of the Defense partnership Council to be held May 28, 1997. This notice is to announce that the meeting is cancelled due to conflicts in members' schedules.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Kenneth Oprisko, Chief, Labor Relations Branch, Field Advisory Services Division, Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service, 1400 Key Boulevard, Suite B-200, Arlington, VA 22209-5144, (703) 696-1450.

Dated: May 20, 1997.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 97-13754 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Meeting of the Task Force on Defense Reform

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of an initial meeting of the Task Force on Defense Reform (the Task Force). The meeting will be open to the public. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the task, approach, timetable, and background information. This notice is less than the customary fifteen days since it is critical that the Task Force meet as soon as possible to ensure that findings and recommendations are cognizant of and coordinated with the Quadrennial Review process and the proceedings of the National Defense Panel.

The Task Force was recently established to make recommendations to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense on alternatives for organizational reforms, reductions in management overhead, and streamlined business practices in the Department of Defense, with emphasis on the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Defense Agencies and the DoD Field Activities, and the military departments.

**DATES:** Thursday, May 29, 1997, at 1:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Room 3E928, the Pentagon, Washington, DC. Seating is limited. Must call Mr. Blair Ewing at the number listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section below to arrange for access to Pentagon.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Mr. Blair Ewing, Designated Federal Officer, Room 1B728, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301. Telephone: (703) 695-9016. Interested parties should call Mr. Ewing before 10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 29, 1997.

Dated: May 20, 1997.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 97-13755 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M